DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING

FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & SURVEYING

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

KAMPUS SERI ISKANDAR

PERAK

WORK READINESS AMONG FINAL YEAR QUANTITY SURVEYING STUDENTS IN UITM SERI ISKANDAR, PERAK

Final Project submitted in partial fulfilment

of the requirement for the award of

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ABSTRACT

Unemployment of graduates in Malaysia has become a worrying phenomenon in recent years. In fact, the issue of unemployment in Malaysia and also throughout the world is not because of a lack of employment opportunities but is mainly due to the poor quality of graduates. Students are often deficiently prepared for their workplace learning, hence student satisfaction, and employer satisfaction, with the experience may be low. The graduates are desire to alter themselves in meeting the market needs of the expanding significance of both soft and technical skills for better job opportunities. Along these lines, work readiness is required preceding graduation. Work readiness is a graduate attribute that is regularly utilised in reference to graduates who have completed their studies and have initiated their expert profession in the industry. The main purpose of this study is to investigate the work readiness among undergraduate Quantity Surveying students in UiTM Seri Iskandar by assessing the level of skills and knowledge possessed by students. In order to achieve this study, questionnaires will be distributed to the final year Quantity Surveying undergraduate respondents in UiTM Seri Iskandar, Perak as demanded by the market upon leaving the education system. The data will be collected and analysed using Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) software. The findings of this study can help universities to produce high-quality graduates, thus reducing the number of unemployed graduates besides providing job opportunities.

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CHAPTER 1

OVERVIEW OF TITLE

1.1 Introduction

Malaysia's unemployment rate, which was recorded at 10.8% last year, was most likely due to the mismatch of skills (Andria, 2018). Graduate unemployment in Malaysia has become a concerning issue in recent years. MIDF Research issued a report regarding graduates unemployment found out the figure was influenced by the rising graduate unemployment rate which increased to 9.6% and translated to 204,000 people that contributed 40.5% of total unemployment. The report also revealed that 76% of all job vacancies last year were for elementary occupation followed by 10.3% for plant and machinery operators and assemblers, based on data provided by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (Andria, 2018).

Abel, Deitz (2014) stated it is increasingly concerned that recent graduates are finding themselves underemployed which means working in jobs that do not require a college degree while high unemployment among recent college graduates has drawn significant attention from policymakers and the public alike. This can be proven by news stories of recent college graduates who were unable to find employment that fits their education level, take jobs as a barista, bartender, or retail clerk.

However, as for new graduates who have a degree in a particular field of study, they have no market value if they do not have at least two years of practical experience to complement their degree. Without practical experience, salaries will not grow (The Star Online, 2019).